StatsUpdate

Topic: **Labour Force**[1]
3 month moving average ending in August 2017[2]
Released by Statistics Canada – September 8, 2017

Background: For June 2017 to August 2017, the average number of persons employed in Nunavut was estimated at **13,600**, a **decrease** of **100** persons from the same period last year. The decrease in employed persons is reflected in the employment rate, which **went down** to **55.7%** - a **decrease** of **0.5 percentage points** from one year ago.

Details:

Labour Force Characteristics For People Aged 15 and Over

	August 2017	August 2016	August 2016 to August 2017	August 2017	August 2016	August 2016 to August 2017
	3 Month Moving Average[2]					
	Labour Force			Participation Rate		
	'000		change ('000)	%		change (% points)[4]
Nunavut	**16.1**	**15.9**	**0.2**	**66.0**	**65.3**	**0.7**
Inuit	11.7	11.6	0.1	60.3	59.6	0.7
Non-Inuit	4.3	4.3	0.0	88.7	87.7	1.0
Canada	20,002.7	19,730.7	272.0	66.9	66.6	0.3
	Employment			Employment Rate		
	'000		change ('000)	%		change (% points)[4]
Nunavut	**13.6**	**13.7**	**-0.1**	**55.7**	**56.2**	**-0.5**
Inuit	9.4	9.5	-0.1	48.1	49.1	-1.0
Non-Inuit	4.2	4.1	0.1	86.3	84.5	1.8
Canada	18,714.4	18,336.2	378.2	62.5	61.9	0.6
	Unemployment[3]			Unemployment Rate[3]		
	'000		change ('000)	%		change (% points)[4]
Nunavut	**2.5**	**2.2**	**0.3**	**15.6**	**13.9**	**1.7**
Inuit	2.4	2.0	0.4	20.3	17.6	2.7
Non-Inuit	X	X	X	X	X	X
Canada	1,288.3	1,394.4	-106.1	6.4	7.1	-0.7

Notes:
[1] A standard revision has been applied to Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates, as announced in *The Daily* on February 3, 2017. Beginning with this release, historical comparisons of estimates produced by the LFS must be made with revised historical data. For more information, see the publication "The 2015 Revisions of the Labour Force Survey (LFS)" which is available as part of the *Improvements to the Labour Force Survey* series (Catalogue number71F0031X).
[2]Three month moving average ending in August is an average of the months of June, July and August.
[3]Please use the unemployment estimates with caution, as they tend to have a higher variability than employment estimates.
[4]Percentage points are the actual numerical difference between two percentages, such as: 10%-8%=2% points.
[5]Cells with the letter X indicate that the estimate was suppressed for confidentiality and/or reliability reasons.

For more statistical information, visit our website at: http://www.stats.gov.nu.ca/en/home.aspx

Definitions

Labour Force

Civilian non-institutional population15 years of age and over who were employed or unemployed during the survey reference week.

Employment

Employed persons are those who, during the reference week:

(a) did any work at all at a job or business, that is, paid work in the context of an employer-employee relationship, or self-employment; or

(b) had a job but were not at work due to factors such as own illness or disability, personal or family responsibilities, vacation, labour dispute or other reasons (excluding persons on layoff, between casual jobs, and those with a job to start at a future date).

Unemployment

Unemployed persons are those who, during the reference week:

(a) were on temporary layoff during the reference week with an expectation of recall and were available for work; or

(b) were without work, had actively looked for work in the past four weeks, and were available for work, or

(c) had a new job to start within four weeks from reference week, and were available for work.

Participation Rate

Total labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. The participation rate for a particular group (for example, Inuit aged 25 years and over) is the labour force in that group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group.

Employment Rate

Number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. The employment rate for a particular group (for example, Inuit aged 25 years and over) is the number employed in that group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group.

Unemployment Rate

Number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force. The unemployment rate for a particular group (for example, Inuit aged 25 years and over) is the number unemployed in that group expressed as a percentage of the labour force for that group.

Inuit Identity

Persons who identified themselves as Inuit - based on the individual's own perception of his/her Inuit identity.

Notes about the Labour Force Survey in Nunavut

All the data in this document are from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), a national household survey conducted each month by Statistics Canada. The LFS is the source of the official measure of unemployment in Canada and provides information on major labour market trends. The objective of the LFS is to divide the working-age population into three mutually exclusive classifications – employed, unemployed, and not in the labour force – and to provide descriptive data on each of these categories.

On May 8, 2009, Statistics Canada released Nunavut data collected through the LFS based on a recent increase in survey coverage in Nunavut. The Nunavut LFS data covers 19 communities, representing about 92% of all Nunavut residents aged 15 years and over. More information is available in the "*Guide to the Labour Force Survey in Nunavut, 2009*", located on the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics' website http://www.stats.gov.nu.ca/en/home.aspx.

The Nunavut data are collected from a sample of approximately 730 households per three-month consecutive period, involving about 1,800 persons 15 years of age and over. Data collection is carried out each month during the week following the LFS reference week (normally the week containing the 15th day of the month). The average response rate in Nunavut was 75.5% in 2016 and 76.3% in 2015.

Results for the territories are reported based on 3 month moving averages (3MMA) to respect the sampling design and to obtain reasonable sampling errors. This means that data reported for August 2017, actually represent survey collection in June 2017, July 2017 and August 2017. All survey counts are rounded to the nearest 100, but the rates are based on the unrounded data. Due to the rounding some components may not sum to the total. Rounded estimates of less than 200 are suppressed for confidentiality and reliability reasons.

More detailed information on the Labour Force Survey methodology, data quality and definitions is available from the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics. For more information about the survey and/or to obtain data, please contact the Bureau's information officers (mmearns@gov.nu.ca or dkilabuk@gov.nu.ca).

Next Release: October 6, 2017